Early Life of John Philip Sousa, "The March King," in Washington

the life and achievements of the life and achievements of John Philip Sousa one reads of the eminent musician, the eminent composer, the premier author of marches, the pre-eminent bandmaster and the gentleman. There is one chapter in the mistory of this clever and successful man which seems never to have been more than roughly outlined by a pen. That is the chapter of his boyhood. And it is not so easy to write it as one may think. John was born sixty-seven John was born sixty-seven years ago, and many of those boys with whom he played have grown gray beards and families and have been translated to a sphere from which, though they may weave their influence about us, yet they do not seem to tell to us the things we would like to know. Many of those who were boys with John, and who are still here, preserve fond memories of him, but when it comes to the rememberance or the recollection of specific details and important facts, they become vague and foggy.

Most of the members of John's family have passed away. His mother and father and his brothers George and Antonio are dead. His youngest brothers Lovie has moved away from

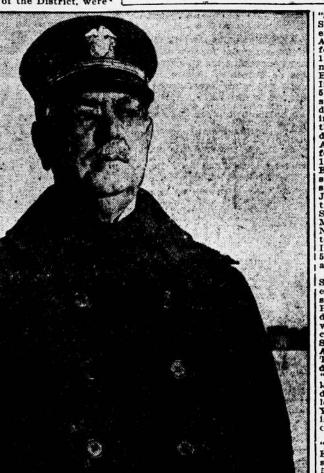
Antonio are dead. His youngest brother, Louis, has moved away from Washington. His younger sister, Elizabeth, lives in Grand Rapids, Mich. One sister, Katherine, older than John, lives in Washington. A few old neighbors of the Sousas still live near the Sousa home, but most of those who knew John as a boy are no more. John from the time he was born, in 1854 until he went away to

Marine Band he was a busy man, with many responsibilities. He left the Marine Band and Washington in

the Marine Band and Washington in 1892, and that was twenty-nine years ago. All the prominent public life of John, covering more than forty years, has been written, but those years when he was a boy in Southeast Washington, or "on the navy yard," as we used to say, have been given scant attention by biographers.

HN'S father, Antonio Sousa, made a strong impress upon the mem-

FAMOUS Musician's Home and His Boyhood Environs-Early Musical Training, When He Performed on the "Slip-horn" and the "Fiddle"-First Enlistment in the Marines and Position With the Marine Band-Tracing the Sousa Family Back to the Time They Came From Spain-Little John's First Concert and the Clothes That Did Not Fit-Leadership of the Nation's Most Famous Band.



"Sioussa and Ennis" (C. Maurice Sioussa and Gregory I. Ennis), grocers, 325 Pennsylvania avenue west. Antonio Sousa is not in the directory of 1864 he reappears as "Antonio Sioussa, musician. house, 528 Seventh street, East." The entry is the same in 1865. In 1867 it is "Antonio Sousa, musician, 527 7th southeast." The entry is the same in the directory of 1868. The directory of 1869 missed him. During all these years the "Sioussas" of the northwest section multiplied. The directory canvassers of 1870 missed Antonio, but they enumerated the following "Sioussas": Charles, 814 18th west; Clara E., 1225 L west; Elizabeth A. and Frederick P., messenger National Metropolitan Bank, same address; H. C. Sioussa, 814 18th; J. W. Sioussa, 1225 L west; M. L. Sioussa, cashier. boards 814 18th; Mary, widow of John Sioussa, 1424 N. Y. avenue. In 1871 we find "Antonio Sousa, musician, 502 7th S. E." In 1872 it is Antonio Sousa, musician, 500 7th S. E. The directories of 1873 and 1874 skipped him.

In 1875 we get this: "Antonia Sousa practiced cabinet-



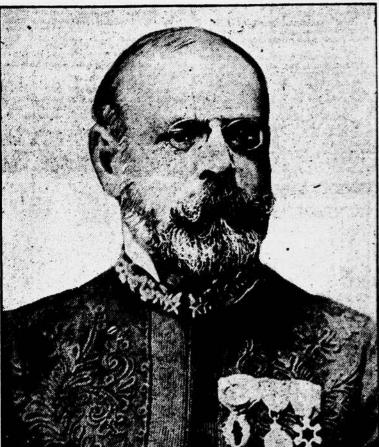
In 1872 it is Antonio Sousa, musician. 500 7th S. E. The directories of 1873 and 1874 skipped him.

In 1875 we get this: "Antonia Sousa, musician, 500 7th street southerst." That was John Philip Sousa's first appearance in the directory of his native city. In 1876 we get this: "Antonio Sousa, nusician, 500 7th southeast." That was John Philip Sousa's first appearance in the directory of his native city. In 1876 we get this: "Antonio Sousa, nusician, 500 7th southeast." That was the first appearance in the directory of Antonio, junior, or "Tony" Sousa, who became widely known in Washington. In the 1877 directory John P. disappears. He has left the city, to seek fortune in New York and Philadelphia and in traveling about the country with an orchestra.

In the 1879 directory we find this: "Antony Sousa, cabinet maker, 765 E street southeast, house 502 7th southeast; George Scussa musician, 502 7th southeast." This was the first appearance of George, a brother of John, in the directory. The directory was for the entertainment of the people at the Government Hos-

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of memory, and I could hear my master of memory and I could hear my master hurting imprecations at my master of memory at the companison of the plano to vamp an action of the companison of the plano to vamp an action of the companison of the plano to vamp an action of the companison of the plano to vamp an action of the companison of



We need not go into the matter of the success of that band. It not only played its way "from one end of the country to the other," but it played around the world. John today is a man of great prestige. He is a little older than when he played the fiddle under the watchful eye of beloved John Esputa and frazzled the nerves of the neighbors with his practice on the trombone, but he is young and

SOUSA WHEN LEADER OF THE MARINE BAND IN WASHINGTON.

Is ignordant note, whose vibration he hears of discordant note, whose vibration he hears of discordant note, whose vibration he hears of continued to perform on these useful right, almost for the traditional meas of the continued to perform on these useful right, almost for the traditional meas of the continued to perform on these useful right, almost for the traditional meas of the continued to perform on these useful right, almost for the traditional meas of a Virginia girl, retired from the mind instruments and John put him to do was the third below Salvador Accard and next door to James Accard and next

leve, will prove a big success."

The Evening Star of April 28, 1892, contained this notice of Antonio Seuss's death:

vigorous yet. He maintains a beau-tiful home, which might properly be called an "estate." at Fort Washing-ton, Long Island. He married Miss Jane Bellis of Philadelphia and has The Evening Star of August 24, 1968, published what follows con-cerning the death of Mrs. Elizabeth

tiful home, which might properly be called an "estate." at Fort Washington, Long Island. He married Miss Jane Bellis of Philadelphia and has three children. They all attended Christ Church, Navy Yard, when they lived in Washington. John Philip Sousa, jr., is in business in New York city, Miss Helen Sousa became the wife of Hamilton Abert of Washington and they live in New York. Miss Jane Priscilla lives at the family home on Long Island.

John's brother George enlisted in the Marine Band and was playing Fousa: Nrs. Elizabeth Sousa, widow of Antones Sousa and mother of John Philip Sousa, the noted bandmaster and composer, died at the family residence, 262 7th street southeast, yesterday afternoon at 5:35 o'clock. Her dean was due to general debility.

Mrs. Sousa was eighty-two years of age and had been a resident of this city since 1854. Up to about three months ago she was more than ordinarily active for her age, and was accustomed to a daily walk, but about that time she began to fall and gradually the Marine Band and was playing the triangle and the cymbals when

by birth. Like Antonio Sousa, he was a musician. At some port in Europe he joined the U. S. Navy as a member of a ship's band, and he arrived in this country before the Mexican war. He became leader of a ship's band and was wounded during the war with Mexica in a way which made it necessary that he lay aside the musical instrument (cornet) which he played. He was given employment in the Navy Department and remained with that department until employment in the Navy Department and remained with that department unti-

Marshall Neilan says the business is still in its swadding clothes because:

Some directors use megaphones instead of brains.

Many stars believe what their press agents say about them. Film men spoil too much table

linen figuring their losses on restaurant cloths. Some sales mangers are too busy writing form letters to their representatives in the field to sell pictures. A number of motion picture ex-

ecutives look on censorship as a

medium for personal publicity rather than an evil to overcome. .Most financiers want only 80 per cent for the use of their money in motion picture transactions. motion picture transactions.

Various persons in the producing field forget they are under contract when they receive an offer from another company.

A large part of the American public.

A large part of the American public, he says, is not aware of the dangers of censorship. Many believe every one engaged in the film business is a millionaire. Too many exaggerations have been made in connection with the luxuries of movie stars, and every one that has anything to do with a picture wants screen credit.

"In Them Days."

LEO WHITE, a Rockett player, was talking of old times the other day. Let Leo tell it:

"Mary Pickford, Irvin Willat, Ethel Grandin. Ed Le Saint and I were cast in a picture at the old Imp studio in New York eleven years are. 3 day Mary is Mary; Irvin Willat is producing on his own account; Le Saint is directing for Fox. Grandin is a popular actress and I haven't done so badly. I was paid \$30 a week in those days. After two years' work I was offered an opportunity to direct at \$75 per week, but preferred to join Fritzi Scheff at \$100. Miss Pickford left Imp to join Griffith for a raise to \$250 per week.

"Tom Ince was pulling down \$80 per week directing, but I couldn't see a director's job with the Mount Wilson telescope. I'm sorry now."



HOUSE IN WHICH JOHN PHILIP SOUSA WAS BORN, ON G STREET THEAST, THREE DOORS EAST OF CHRIST CHURCH, NAVY YARD.